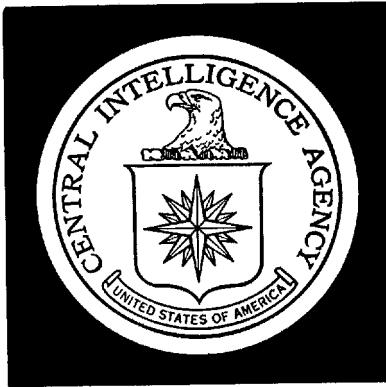


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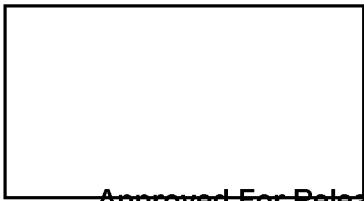


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France: Nuclear submarines [redacted]

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NOTES

FRANCE: DEFENSE MINISTER DEBRE REPORTEDLY IS CONTEMPLATING A RECOMMENDATION TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF FRENCH POLARIS-TYPE NUCLEAR SUBMARINES FROM FIVE TO TEN.

THE FRENCH HAVE BUDGETED FOR FOUR OF THESE MISSILE-CARRYING SUBMARINES, AND PROGRAMMED A FIFTH. EACH UNIT CARRIES 16 NUCLEAR-EQUIPPED MISSILES. IF FRANCE INCREASES THE NUMBER OF ITS NUCLEAR SUBMARINES TO TEN, NEW CONSTRUCTION PROBABLY WOULD NOT BEGIN BEFORE 1975-76, WHEN THE CURRENT BUILDING PROGRAM IS SCHEDULED TO END.

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